

## Daily Devotion For February 15, 2021

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance" Psalm 33:12

Today' is President's Day, an American holiday celebrated each year on the third Monday in February. John Maxwell often says, "Everything rises and falls on leadership." If that is true, the bible has been one of the greatest influences in some of America's best-known, most courageous leaders.

George Washington, our first president, added the prayer, "*So help me, God,*" to his inauguration oath, then reverently stooped and kissed the Bible which had been used in the oath of office. In his inaugural address to Congress, he stressed God's role in the birth of this republic: "*No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency ... We ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of heaven cannot be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which heaven itself has ordained.*"

One of George Washington's early official acts was the first Thanksgiving Proclamation, which reads, "*Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly implore His protection and favor,*" it goes on to call the nation to thankfulness to Almighty God.

Abraham Lincoln stated, "*It is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.*" Concerning the Bible, Lincoln said, "*All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated through this Book; but for it we could not know right from wrong. All the things desirable to man are contained in it.*"

**Thought For Today:** What role do you think the Bible has had upon our nation's leaders? Do you think American founded upon the truths of Scripture? What influence does the Bible have upon your life?

**Today's Prayer Focus:** As you enjoy celebrating Presidents' Day take time to thank God for those great and godly men who have profoundly influenced the United States of America, and pray for a return of our nation to the one true God. Take a look at this week's updated prayer fuel. Deo Volente.